## Abstract Submitted to the International Conference on Strongly Correlated Electron Systems University of Michigan, Ann Arbor August 6-10, 2001

## Investigation of the Ground State Properties of Mixed Valence Compound SmB<sub>6</sub>

K. Flachbart<sup>1</sup>, S. Gabáni<sup>1</sup>, E. Konovalova<sup>2</sup>, M. Orendáč<sup>3</sup>, Y. Paderno<sup>2</sup>, V. Pavlík<sup>1</sup>, J. Šebek<sup>4</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Inst. Exp. Phys., Slovak Acad. Sci., Watsonova 47, SK-04353 Košice, Slovakia
- <sup>2</sup> Inst. Probl. Mater. Sci., Acad. Sci. Ukraine, UA-252141 Kiev, Ukraine
- <sup>3</sup> Dept. Exp. Phys., P.J. Šafárik Univ., SK-04254 Košice, Slovakia
- <sup>4</sup> Inst. Phys., Acad. Sci. Czech Republic, CZ-18221 Prague, Czech Republic

We have studied the ground state properties of the mixed valence narrow-gap semiconductor  $SmB_6$  by means of electrical conductivity and specific heat measurements down to 0.1 K. The conductivity results show that the residual electrical conductivity of  $SmB_6$ , which is observed below about 3 K, is non-activated and the corresponding state, which is formed within the impurity dependent in-gap states, has a metallic-like nature. Additional heat capacity measurements of two samples with a different content of impurities reveal, moreover, an enhancement of the specific heat of  $SmB_6$  in this temperature range. The observed behaviour can be attributed to a coherent state formation at the Fermi level of this compound at very low temperatures.